



JACK DOYLE

MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

For Immediate Release:
Thursday, October 10, 2002

DOYLE ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF SHERRI WOOD AS INTERIM SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

CONNELLY AND ROSS APPOINTED AS ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTORS

Monroe County Executive **Jack Doyle** today announced the appointment of Sherri Wood as the Interim Director for the Department of Social Services (DSS). Her new appointment follows the recent retirement of Richard Schauseil who served as DSS Director since 1992.

“Since joining my administration in 1995, Ms. Wood has consistently demonstrated excellent skills and expertise in the administration of social service programs,” said Doyle. “Her leadership in the field has been recognized by her peers and I applaud her dedication and commitment to Monroe County. Ms. Wood has been a valued member of my senior management team and I fully expect that her leadership and management skills will contribute greatly to the effective implementation of our Social Service programs county wide.”

Wood is a graduate of SUNY Buffalo Law School, worked two years in the Monroe County Public Defenders Office and then fourteen years in private practice. She joined the County’s Law Department in November 1995 and has headed the Monroe County Child Support Enforcement Unit since 1997. That unit was recently honored by the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance for record setting performance.

As Interim DSS Director, Wood is responsible for the largest county department with a budget of \$474.7 million. She will oversee the day-to-day activities of the various divisions that comprise the Department of Social Services. Those divisions include Children and Family Services, Medical Assistance (Medicaid), Temporary Assistance and Finance. Wood also must ensure that all grant proposals are properly submitted and departmental programs adhere to all Federal, State and local laws and regulations.

- MORE -

“I am looking forward to this tremendous challenge and to the opportunity of working on the cutting edge of fresh new organizational approaches to service delivery,” said Wood.

**PATRICIA CONNELLY AND DAN ROSS
APPOINTED ACTING DSS DEPUTY DIRECTORS**

County Executive Jack Doyle today also announced the appointments of Patricia Connelly and Dan Ross as Acting Deputy Directors for the Department of Social Services. Both appointees replace vacancies in the DSS that resulted from early retirements.

Connelly is a graduate of Nazareth College and a 1988 graduate of SUNY Brockport where she received a Master’s Degree in Public Administration. She joined the County’s Department of Social Services in 1980 and has moved through a variety of supervisory positions, working most recently as Emergency Housing Coordinator since 1999.

Ross holds a B.A. from Whitman College, an M.A. from the University of Chicago and received a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Chicago in 1972. Ross joined DSS in 1980 and has provided administrative leadership affecting a wide range of initiatives with a management emphasis on Planning and Program Evaluation.

###

*For further information, call:
Communications and Special Events, 428-2380
See us on the Web at www.monroecounty.gov*